Report of the State Autonomy Committee of J&K

349. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH:
SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI V.V.RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jammu and Kashmir Autonomy Committee Report has been lying with the Government of India since May, 1999,

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any measures to enter into consultations with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any prior indication that Jammu and Kashmir Assembly would pass a resolution endorsing the autonomy report;

(d) if so, whether any advice was given to the State Government before the resolution was passed by the Assembly; and

(e) if so, the nature of this advice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) No Sir. The Report of J & K State Autonomy Committee was received, from the State Government of Jammu & Kashmir, by the Centre in the last week of November 1999. As it was not clear as to whether the State Government had considered the Report, they were requested to apprise the Centre about their views/comments on the various recommendations. The State Government thereafter considered the Report of SAC and endorsed the recommendations and apprised the Centre about the same in the third week of January 2000.

(c) No, sir.

(d) and (e) question does not arise.

Advanced weapons for ultras by ISI

350. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that ISI arranges advanced weapons for ultras;

(b) if so, whether this will enable the militants to carry out fierce attacks on Indian security personnel and anti-Pak sections of the civilian population;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take or have taken to counter this move of ISI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Pak ISI has been sponsoring terrorism in the country and extending all kinds of support including weapons, financial assistance, arms training etc. to the militant outfits operating in the country. Recent instances are indicative of increased presence and movement of militants, particularly the foreign mercenaries in J & K with briefing for targeting security forces and undertaking suicide missions wherever necessary.

(d) Government have adopted a well-coordinated and multi-pronged approach for tackling the activities of militants which includes strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of militants by coordinated intelligence action, setting up of outposts of security forces and modernisation and upgradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc. Steps taken in this regard have resulted in detection/neutralisation of various Pak ISI backed modules.

Internal Threat by ISI

351. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact according to him, there is a ISI sponsored serious internal threat developing in the country;

(b) if so, whether some extremist organisations are openly alienating the minority community by inflammatory speeches, accusation and violence; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb these anti-social and anti-India elements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) Pak ISI is involved in aiding, abitting and supporting terrorism in various parts of the country.

"Public order" and "Police" are State subjects and it is primarily for the concerned State Government to take appropriate action to counter the activities of militant/extremist elements aided and abetted by ISI.